

## EXPORT OF A DOG FROM UNITED KINGDOM TO PANAMA

### NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

#### IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 5181EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 5181EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

- Import permit required;
- Export health certificate issued by DEFRA;
- The dog must be examined by OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN not more than 72 hours prior to export;
- The dogs must be vaccinated against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parvovirus and rabies;
- Treatment against internal and external parasites;
- Examination carried out by the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN at port or airport at the time of export;
- The dog must be placed in a new transport container or a container which has been cleaned using a DEFRA approved disinfectant;
- Quarantine under the supervision of the Panamanian authorities for a minimum of 40 days after the date of entry into Panama;
- Certificate must be legalised by the Panamanian authorities in London.

#### 2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

The first part of the export health certificate (Part A) is completed by the OV nominated by the owner. The second part of the health certificate (Part B) is completed by an OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN at the airport/port of exit. This can be either the same OV, or a different OV. The exporter is responsible for arranging for an OV to be present at each location where required.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

#### **Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland**

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: [certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk](mailto:certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk).

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHC system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

#### **DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies**

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the department, where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

#### 3. IMPORT PERMIT

An import permit must be obtained from the Agricultural and Livestock Quarantine Division in Panama. The address is as follows: Comision Panama - Esrados Unidos para la Eradicacion y Prevencion del Gusano Barrenador del Ganado Edificio No 573, Altos Curundo, Apartado 327, Panama 1, telephone number: 00 507 232 6176, facsimile number: 00 507 220 7981. Any difficulties can be addressed to the British Embassy in Panama. Their address is: British Embassy, Panama City, Panama, telephone: 010 507 2690866, facsimile number: 010 507 230730.

#### 4. LEGALISATION

The export health certificate must be sent or taken to the Panamanian Embassy after part A has been signed by the Official Veterinarian for legalisation. The address is as follows:

Panama House,  
40 Hertford Street,  
London,  
W1.  
Tel: 0207 409 2255  
Fax: 0171 493 4499

#### 5. POST ARRIVAL QUARANTINE

On arrival in Panama the dog will be kept in official quarantine under the supervision of the Health Authority for a minimum of 40 days after the date of entry, during which period it may undergo further tests.

6. **WELFARE DURING TRAVEL**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team

Centre for International Trade

Eden Bridge House

Lowther Street, Carlisle

CA3 8DX

Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301

E-mail: [WIT@apha.gov.uk](mailto:WIT@apha.gov.uk)

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

7. **DISCLAIMER**

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time, and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: [vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)